

Quarterly Report –January 1-April 30 2003
Bozeman Pass Wildlife Linkage and Highway Safety Pilot Study

By the Craighead Environmental Research Institute, under a sub-contract with the Western Transportation Institute at Montana State University

Monitoring

Bozeman Pass was driven on a weekly basis and road-kills were recorded by CERI personnel. Volunteers collected road-kill on a daily basis as they commuted to Bozeman. During the time period (Jan.1 – April 30) approximately 40 animals were recorded as road-kills between Bozeman and Livingston.

Track surveys were conducted during January, February and March. The bridge/overpass at milepost 314 was checked after each snowstorm to determine if animals were using the underpass to cross instead of using the freeway. Approximately 15 sets of deer tracks were recorded using the bridge/overpass during that time period. Snow track surveys were also conducted between the Bear canyon exit at milepost 313 to the Trail Creek exit at milepost 316 when snow conditions allowed. Two separate snow tracking surveys were completed

Locations for road-kills and track surveys were mapped and entered into the GIS database.

Three remote cameras in culverts along Rocky Creek were monitored during the period. Event data was collected and photographs were recorded.

Meetings and Presentations

2/18/03 Bozeman Pass Conference Call with the Bozeman Pass Working Group
3/12/03 Gallatin Valley Land Trust (GVLTL) meeting
3/13/03 Bozeman Pass Working Group Meeting
4/1/03 Bozeman Pass Meeting WTI and AWL
4/3/03 AWL conference call with MDT representatives
4/12/03 Wildlife Forum meeting regarding Bozeman Pass volunteers
4/18/03 Bozeman Pass working group meeting , with MDT representatives in Helena
4/28/03 Gallatin Valley Land Trust (GVLTL) meeting and presentation